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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

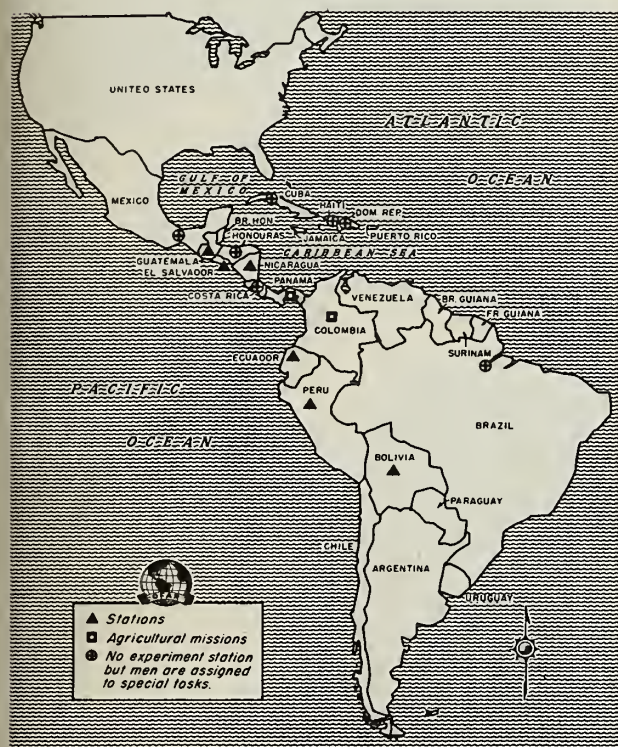
Office of Information



PICTURE STORY NO. 75

FOR RELEASE APRIL 14, 1950

PAN AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS



Map showing location of projects in which the U.S.D.A. cooperates with other American countries.

April 14 is Pan American Day. On that date the 21 American Republics celebrate their 60th anniversary as members of the Organization of American States. "Peace, Security, and Cooperation" is this year's slogan as the neighbor countries observe Pan American Day.

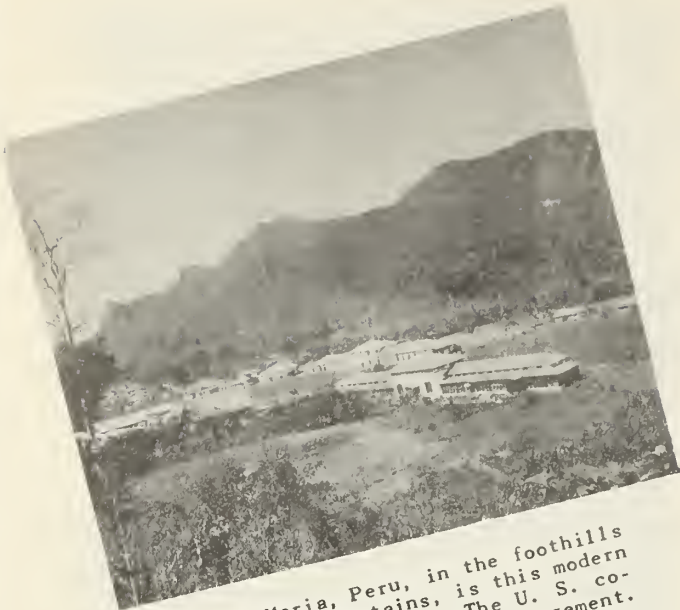
Agriculture plays a leading part in Pan American relationships. The United States does approximately one-

third of its import-export business with Latin American countries, totaling between \$5 and \$6 billion a year; a significant part of the volume is agricultural.

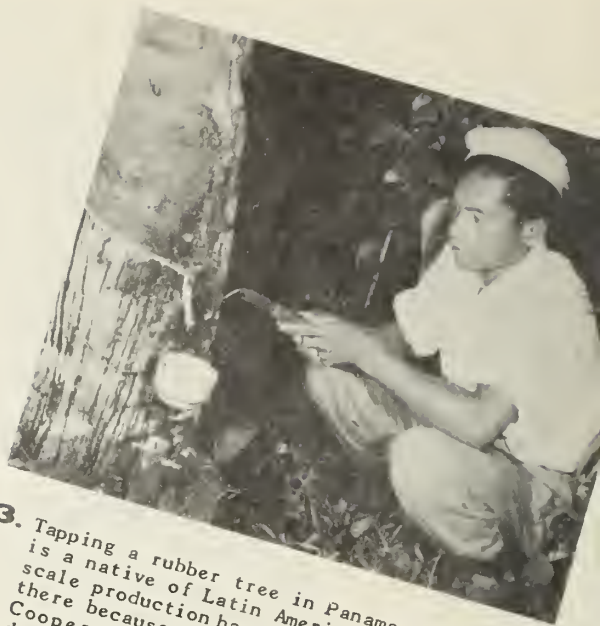
From Latin America the United States imports coffee, cane sugar, fibers, hides and skins, crude drugs, tanning extract, castor beans, bananas, cocoa beans, chicle, wax, vanilla ... as well as petroleum, copper, tin, and other raw materials.

To Latin America the United States exports agricultural and industrial machinery, automobiles, textiles, chemicals, electrical items, food products, and many others.

For 10 years the U. S. Department of Agriculture has been cooperating with neighbor republics in programs of technical agricultural improvement. Special attention is paid to the tropical or semi-tropical items that they sell to the United States. Joint projects are being carried out in 15 countries, through the Department's Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The successful experiences are helping lay the foundation for the cooperation envisioned on a much larger scale by the proposed Point IV Program. The following photographic review is presented in observance of Pan American Day, showing some of the progress in Latin American agriculture that is taking place through such work.



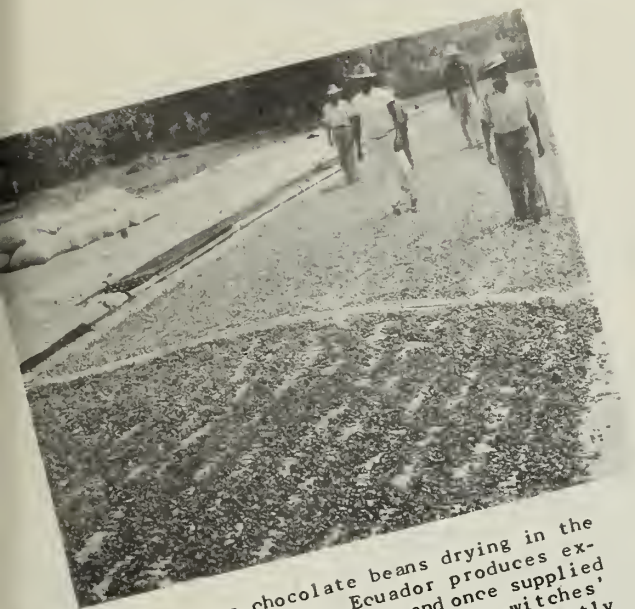
1. At Tingo Maria, Peru, in the foothills of the Andes mountains, is this modern agricultural station. The U. S. co-operates with Peru in its management. Peru supplies land, buildings, technicians, labor, general equipment, and most operating funds. USDA supplies trained scientists and some scientific equipment. (OFAR-Pe-761)



3. Tapping a rubber tree in Panama. Rubber is a native of Latin America but large-scale production has not been successful there because of a serious leaf disease. Cooperative research, however, has developed a grafted tree of high latex yield that successfully resists the disease. (OFAR-Pan-9)



2. Peruvian field worker with *Lonchocarpus* roots. From these roots comes rotenone, a valuable insecticide. It has been used for centuries by South American Indians as a fish poison. It is now being used widely in the U.S. to protect gardens and livestock. (OFAR-Pe-337)



4. Cacao, or chocolate beans drying in the sun in Ecuador. Ecuador produces exceptionally fine cacao and once supplied most U.S. imports. However, witches' broom and pod-rot diseases have greatly damaged Ecuador's cacao industry. USDA and Ecuadorian scientists are cooperating in conquering the disease and are making progress in restoring the industry. (OFAR-E-300)



5. A henequen plant, damaged by Black Leaf Spot disease, is studied by Juan Cano, left, Salvadoran agronomist, and Bowen Crandall, right, USDA pathologist. Both scientists are staff members of the cooperative agricultural station in El Salvador. Station research is showing how this disease can be conquered. Henequen is an important fiber crop of Latin America, and is the principal source of binder twine for the U.S. (OFAR-ES-380)



6. Harvesting kenaf fiber, a new crop in Cuba. Cuba uses \$20 million worth of sugar bagging every year, mostly made of imported jute, and looks on the new kenaf as a potential source of home-grown fiber to replace some of the imports. The Cuban Ministry of Agriculture and Cuban growers are working cooperatively with USDA scientists and US industry to develop kenaf production on a modern mechanized basis. (OFAR-Cu-52)

8x10 glossy photographs of this series are free to writers and editors on request to the Press Service, Office of Information, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.

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